Beach Boulevard & Edinger Avenue Corridors Specific Plan

## Enabling Near Term Opportunities: The Vision for the Edinger Corridor

City Council Study Session
January 7th, 2008



#### **Study Session Purpose**

- To <u>present recommendations</u> for the revitalization of the Edinger Ave Corridor.
- 2. To <u>report on focus group and</u> <u>community workshop participant input</u> on these issues.
- 3. To receive comment and informal direction in response to the recommendations presented.

#### Orientation

#### Corridor Specific Plan Team

- City Staff Core Team
- Freedman

Tung &

**Bottomley** 

- Tierra West Advisors in partnership with Linda S. Congleton & Associates
- Austin-Foust Associates

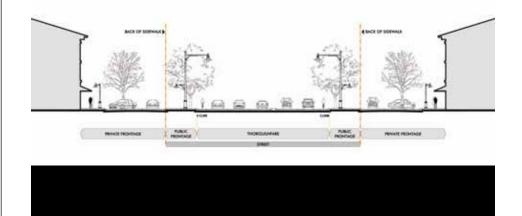
- Everything
- Corridor Revitalization Land Use, Urban Design & Development Regulations
- Market and Fiscal Analyses
- Circulation & Access

#### Beach/Edinger Corridors Specific Plan Study Area





#### Definition of Terms: "The Corridor"



### The <u>Corridor</u> is Generally Defined by the Residential Transition Line





A <u>Specific Plan</u> is the community's most powerful tool to guide change to "make a better city"

#### The Specific Plan

#### 1. Community Intent

The Envisioned Future Corridor Corridor Revitalization Strategy

- 2. Development Regulations
- 3. Planned City Actions

### PLAN FRAMEWORK: KEY COMMUNITY MEETINGS - NEXT

- <u>City Council/Planning Commission Study Session</u> (<u>optional</u>): Land Use & Development Policy Approach to Implementing the Vision for Edinger.
- <u>Community Workshop 5</u>: Design Character & Identity for the Beach/Edinger Corridors.
- <u>Community Workshop 6</u>: Envisioned Future /Revitalization Strategy for Beach Boulevard.
- <u>City Council/Planning Commission Study Session:</u> Recommended Plan Framework.
- <u>Planning Commission Hearing(s)</u> Specific Plan Review.
- <u>City Council Hearing(s)</u> Specific Plan Review and Adoption.

#### PLAN FRAMEWORK: KEY COMMUNITY MEETINGS – TO DATE

- Focus Groups
- <u>Community Workshop 1</u>: Existing Conditions and Community Aspirations
- <u>Community Workshop 2</u>: Revitalization Concepts -Broad Brush Alternatives and Trade-Offs
- Community Workshop 3: Traffic
- <u>Community Workshop 4</u>: Making The Most of Near Term Opportunities: The Vision for Edinger
- <u>City Council/Planning Commission Study Session:</u> Making the Most of Near Term Opportunities: The Vision for the Edinger Avenue Corridor

## Community Aspirations & Project Intent

Focus Groups

#### Chamber of Commerce

- Huntington Beach residents and visitors would like better local shopping opportunities, especially apparel and quality grocery. Potential for major retailers limited because of proximity of Costa Mesa and Westminster malls
- Need for driveway consolidation on Beach
- Beach Boulevard needs aesthetic upgrade not a proper entry to the City
- Many successful and stable businesses along both corridors

#### Property Owners, Developers

- HB not a desirable office address. Residential "missing" in Edinger corridor. Interest in creating a mixed use place, with some single use projects.
- Beach is not a positive entry: need a "Wow" factor, and "eye appeal" now it looks like "junky flea market" Upgrades need to be aesthetic and economic
- Property owners want intensification of entitlements and streamlining of process. Change will take a long time, they want flexibility in terms of use. Stand alone residential is probably what would develop most quickly

#### Property Owners, Developers

- Concern that traffic issue will "shut it down," i.e. limit increases in intensity. "Have to make traffic flow." Interest in transit potential within and to City
- North HB businesses losing customers because of mall especially delis, etc.
- On Beach, there is "huge demand" for office, especially medical. Small parcels big development challenge
- Parking "drives everything" Many over-parked properties, "sea of unused parking"
- Some properties ready for submittal now Red Oak, DJM

#### CalTrans

- · Caltrans owns Beach Boulevard
- Changes in the Edinger corridor have major impact on Caltrans facilities (405 and interchanges)
- All changes to Beach will require Caltrans' full agreement and participation
- Caltrans will comment on changes in Edinger;
   City will be required to analyze traffic in conformance w/Caltrans procedures

## Community Aspirations & Project Intent

**Community Workshops** 

## Community Workshop 1 - Comments

- Beach is not a good "walkable" street
- Beach Blvd sea of concrete
- Setbacks and other devices to deal with wide highway
- More landscape setbacks on Beach Blvd.
- Need innovation to keep flow of traffic

#### Community Workshop 1 - Comments

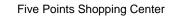
- Beach Boulevard is our gateway to the City and to the Pacific Ocean.
  - Accessibility transportation
  - Pleasant drive
  - Surf city identity
- Nothing unique about Beach Blvd.
- Keep "flavor" of Beach Blvd.
- Terrible eyesore
- Limited depth on Beach Blvd. parcels
- There has been a history of citizen meetings regarding Beach Blvd.

#### Community Workshop 1 - Comments

- New Horizontal mixed-use development would be a good idea
- Convert commercial property to residential property
- Boeing will need housing in corridor
  - Healthy, affordable mix of housing
- Need for increased residential density
  - Modes of increased density
- Affordability attracts a young and vibrant population
- Mixed-use reduces traffic
- Plaza Almeria is a good example of vertical mixed-use
- Need a variety of housing options

What Aspects of the Corridors Have We been Studying?

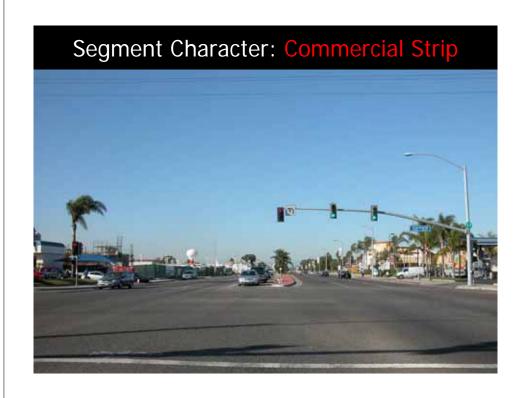






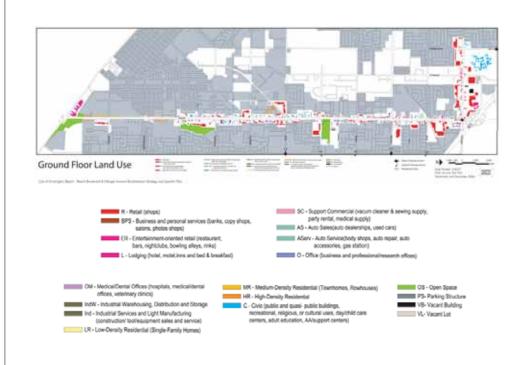
Context:

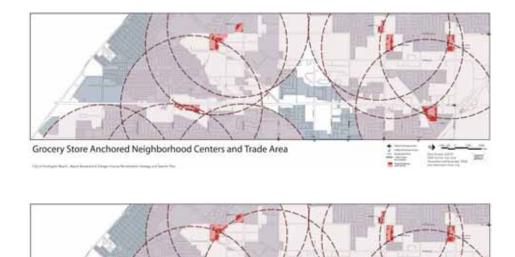




#### Edinger Ave. – Existing Conditions



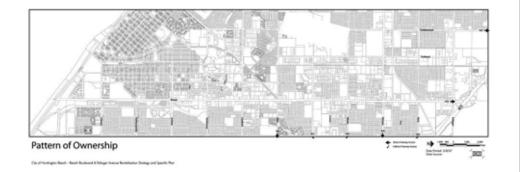




Grocery Store Anchored Neighborhood Centers and Trade Area







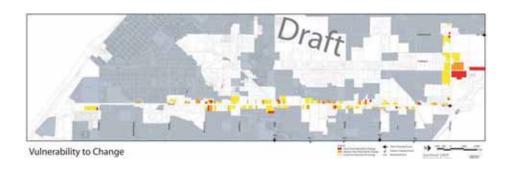














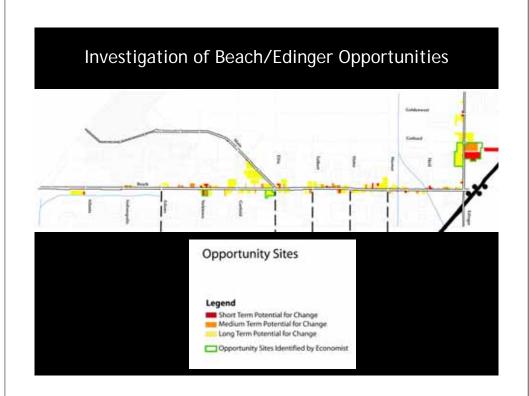


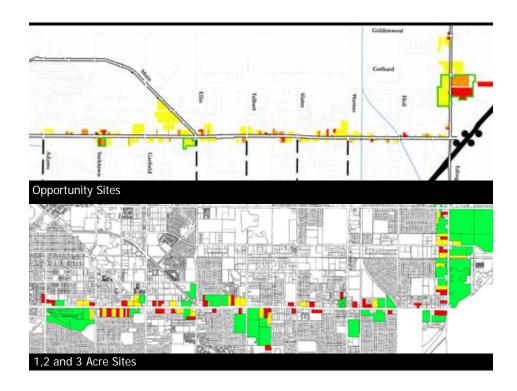


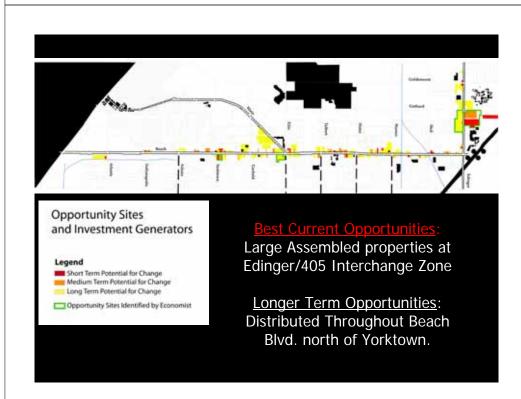
Why Are We Looking at Edinger First?



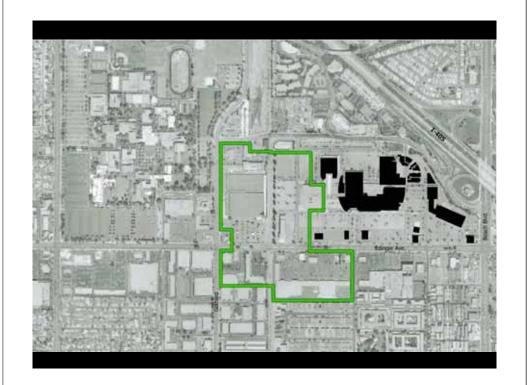
# Investigation of Beach/Edinger Opportunities Investment Generators









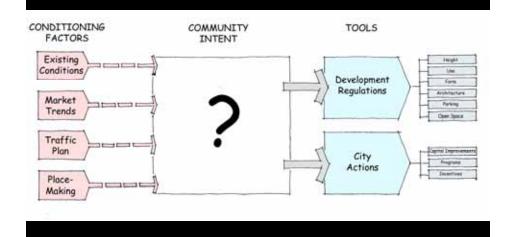




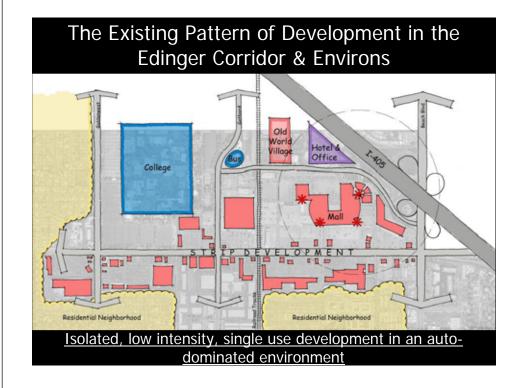
## Why are We Looking at Edinger First?

- 1. Most if not all assembled opportunity sites ready for new investment to start revitalization are clustered along Edinger.
- 2. Owners of large assembled properties along Edinger have the financing and motivation to proceed rapidly with new investment.
- 3. Waiting for the entire Beach Edinger planning to be completed may jeopardize capturing available near-term investment opportunities.

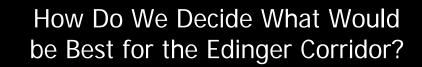
## How Do We Decide What Would be Best for the Edinger Corridor?

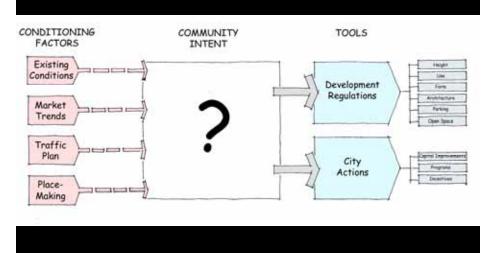


## Existing Conditions along Edinger









#### Market Trends

1.0 Economics and Market Assessment: Beach and Edinger Corridors

## INSERT MARKET ASSESSEMENT PRESENTATION BY TIERRA WEST HERE

#### Market Trends

2.0 Forces of Change effecting Shopping Malls and Environs

The shopping industry is evolving dramatically.

#### 1970s – 90s: Malls Dominated the Industry



#### Shopping Mall Customer: Woman, Age 25 - 45

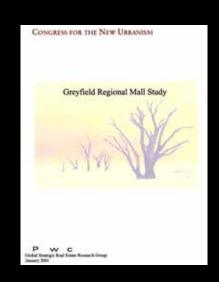
- Social life revolves around the Mall
- 3 5 visits/month
- 2 5 hour visit with girlfriends
- Visits every shoe store
- Walks THRU the mall
- Highest sales at main crossroads court
- Not Brand Loyal
- Today: She Does Not Exist

#### Today's Shopper

- Children
- Career
- Night School
- She doesn't cross-shop
- In and Out of Department Store without walking thru the Mall
- Brand Loyal e.g. Anne Klein

#### . . . As A Result . . .

- 80s, 90s: 20 Malls / year
- Today, less than1 Mall/ year
- Existing Malls
   Vulnerable: 20%
   "greyfields" i.e.
   redevelopment
   candidates.



#### Reasons for Mall's Decline

- Shift in Customer Preference to retail formats that
  - Accommodate the much busier lifestyles of particularly female shoppers who no longer spend as much time in the mall – "lifestyle centers" found to deliver more \$/s.f./min. than regional malls.
  - Accommodate the baby boomer generation's current preference for city life

#### Los Angeles Times

June 3, 2004

#### CALIFORNIA

#### More Shopping Malls Going Alfresco

Developers hope to duplicate downtown experience in suburbs with open-air 'alls'

By Julie Tamaki, Times Staff Writer

Malls, the bastions of merchandising that for decades relied on fashion and food courts to entice shoppers, are losing their lids — and not just in sunny Southern California.

Drive by some of the nation's newest retail attractions and it's clear that the conventional mall is declining in status.

Developers are tearing down or reconfiguring covered malls from Raleigh, N.C., to Columbus, Ohio, making room for outdoor centers that mix traditional retailers with big-box stores, high-density housing, stadium-style theaters, grocery stores and restaurants.

Malls have made the transition to "alls," open-air centers in Pasadena, Sherman Oaks and Long Beach. The trend continues in Torrance, Whittier and Huntington Beach, where developers hope to mimic the downtown experience that is missing from many suburban communities.

"Many people live in communities where there's not a main street where they can walk, window shop and meet people," said Ellen Greenberg, director of research at the Congress for the New Urbanism, a







## Shift in Customer/Investor Preference to Urban Formats

"Lifestyle Centers"



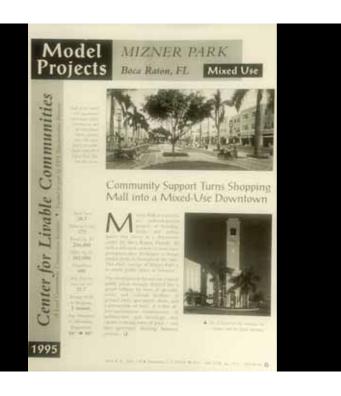
Village of Rochester Hills

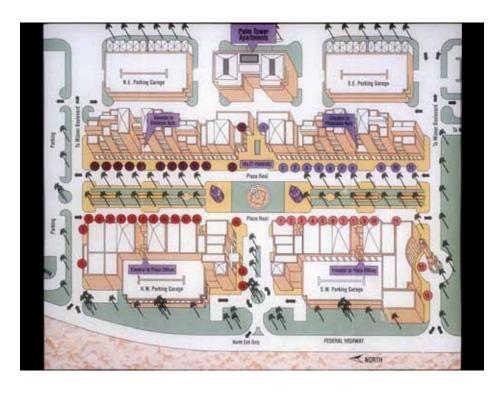


## Most Recently: City Centers

















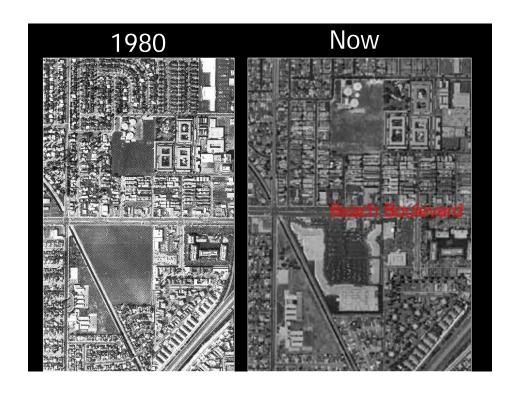


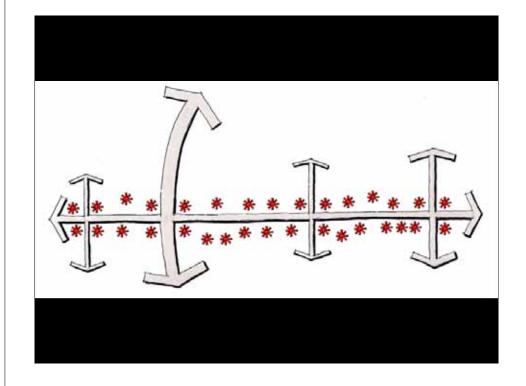


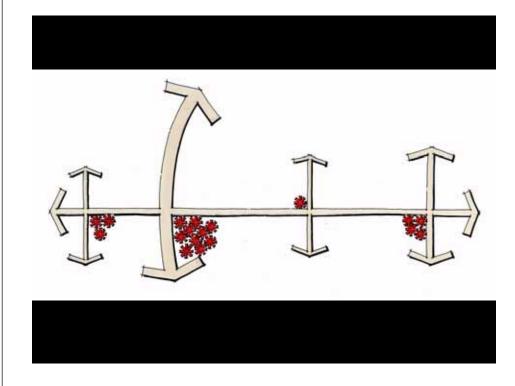










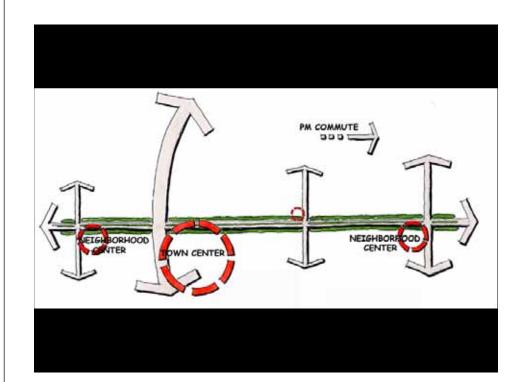


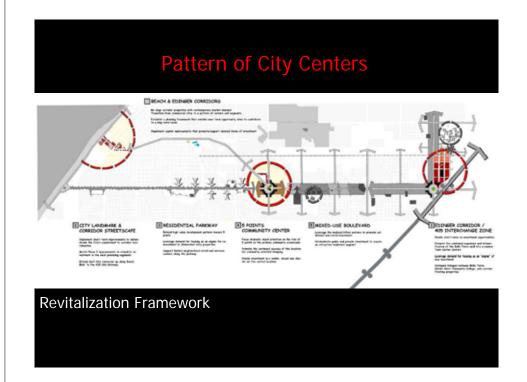
## Current Preference for Anchored Urban Formats ("Lifestyle Centers" - "City Centers")

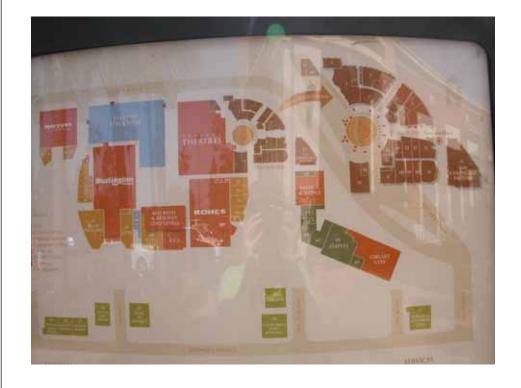














# Bella Terra: hybrid mall + lifestyle center

Missing: Housing, Pedestrian Connectivity

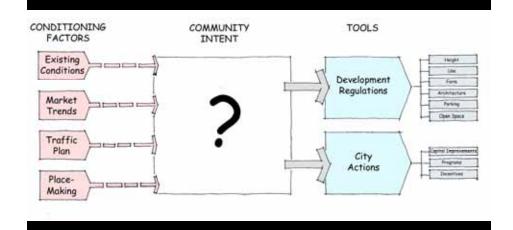
Lingering Disinvestment = Opportunity to bolster the performance of Bella Terra/Edinger. . .





. . and enhance the identity of this part of the City

How Do We Decide What Would be Best for the Edinger Corridor?



## Traffic

#### PLAN FRAMEWORK: KEY COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- Focus Groups
- <u>Community Workshop 1</u>: Existing Conditions and
  - **Community Aspirations**
- <u>Community Workshop 2</u>: "Broad-Brush" Revitalization & Planning Concepts
- Community Workshop 3: Traffic
- <u>Community Workshop 4</u>: Making the Most of Current Opportunities: The Vision for the Edinger Corridor
- <u>City Council/Planning Commission Study</u> Session:

Recommended Plan Framework

#### **Summary**

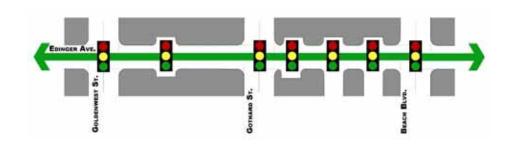
- 1. The Corridors are in need of investment & revitalization; there is market demand to provide it.
- 2. Current mobility problems are a cause of concern in the community.
- 3. A package of <u>near-term</u> improvements will be necessary to a) improve mobility to acceptable standards, and b) allow new <u>near-term</u> investment without violating those standards.

#### **Evening Traffic**

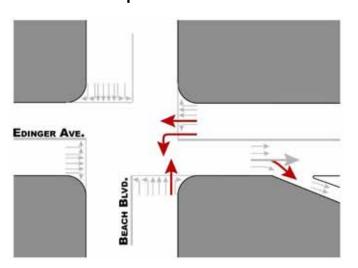
Existing Conditions in the Weekday P.M. Peak



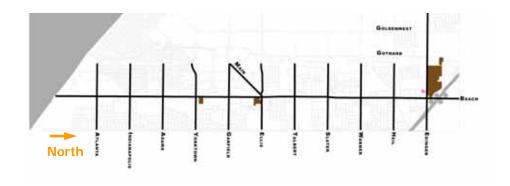
Edinger Corridor - Signal Timing Improvements



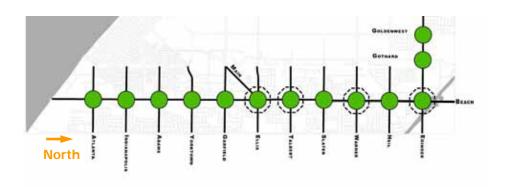
#1. Edinger/Beach Intersection Improvements



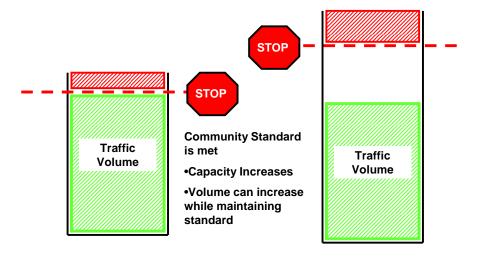
Potential Short-Term Investment



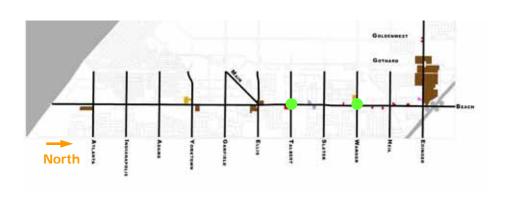
## PM Peak Hour: Short-Term Scenario with Traffic Improvements



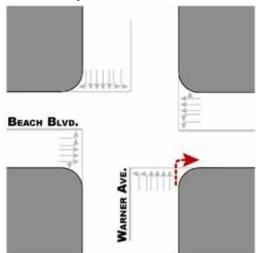
#### Intersection Improvements



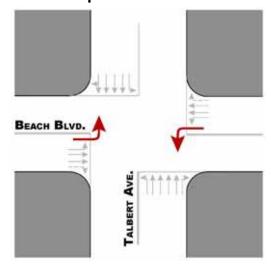
#### Potential Medium-Term Investment + Traffic Improvement Locations



Mid-Term #1. Beach/Warner Intersection Improvements



Mid-Term #2. Additional Beach/Talbert Intersection Improvements



## PM Peak Hour: Mid-Term Development Scenario with Mid Term Improvements

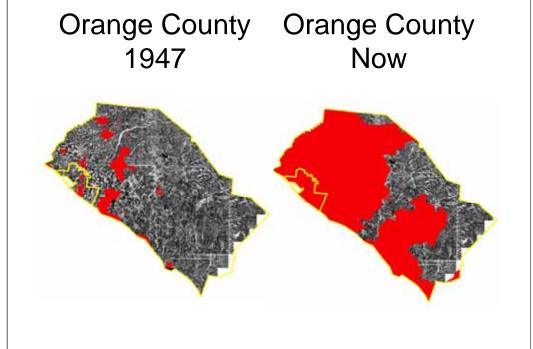


#### What We Have Learned

- 1. The Community has the Potential to Choose to Accommodate Reinvestment while enhancing mobility.
- 2. The amount of new investment that can be accommodated within the community's standard for traffic mobility is **limited** to that tested in the Mid-Term Scenario.

Why Bother with New Development?

Using new Investment & Re-investment to Enhance Future Mobility

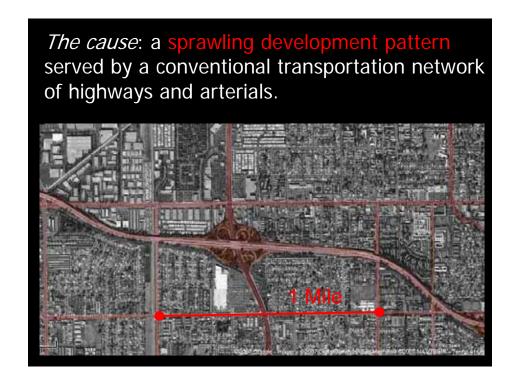


In 1950 People
Traveled Around
10 miles per day

Travel Over
40 miles per day

5 miles to
Newport
Beach

20 miles
to Dana
Point



Design of environment discourages walking, bicycling, transit stop waiting.





Uniform low-density development does not warrant the development of transit facilities



This <u>existing</u> pattern of development is <u>no longer</u> sustainable in terms of energy, water and other resource consumption.

Growth over the next 30 years is projected to roughly equal the past 30 years.

| Population change 1970-2000 |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| LA                          | 2,492,270 |
| San Diego                   | 1,460,030 |
| Orange                      | 1,423,310 |
| Riverside                   | 1,098,950 |
| San Bernadino               | 1,034,650 |

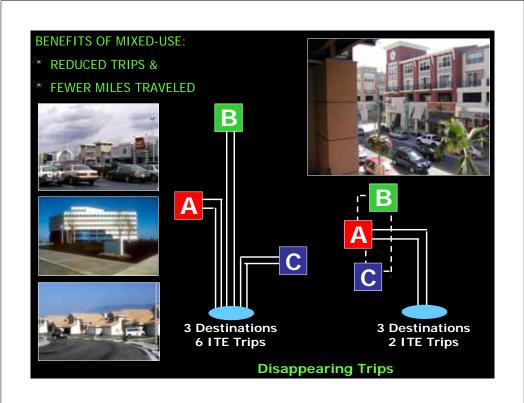
| Population change 2000-2030 |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Riverside                   | 1,524,530 |
| LA                          | 1,469,470 |
| San Diego                   | 1,345,740 |
| San Bernadino               | 1,152,200 |
| Orange                      | 1,134,370 |

Source:
Woods &
Poole Nationwide
County Rank

How Can We Plan for Continued Investment & Revitalization that does not degrade the Quality of Life in our City?

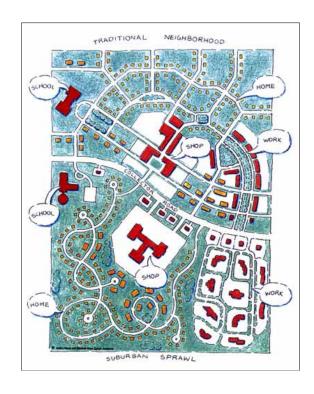
Principles for Growing Smarter

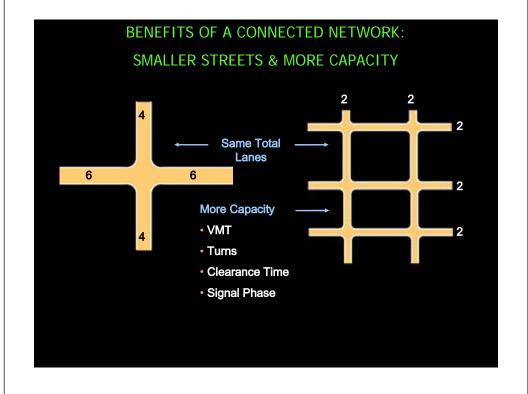
Single Use Everywhere vs. Some Mixed-Use Centers



Principles for Growing Smarter

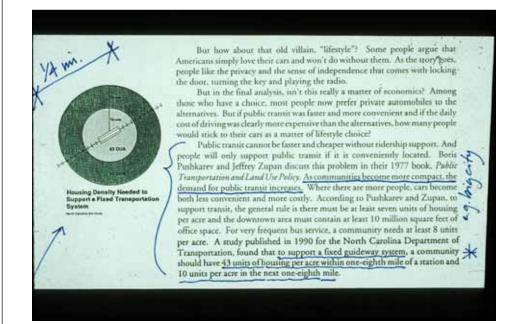
Superblock vs. Fine-Grained Street Network





## Principles for Growing Smarter

Uniform Low Density vs. City Centers with Greater Density



# Pigure 8 Vehicle Ownership and Demographic Statistics by Population Density 2001 NHTS To provide Availability DENSITY DIVINITY DENSITY DENSITY DENSITY DENSITY DENSITY DENSITY DENSITY DENSITY

## Principles for Growing Smarter

Patterns that Discourage Walking, Bicycling vs. City Patterns that Encourage Walking, Bicycling, Transitriding BENEFITS OF BIKING/PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE:

LESS VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED

**HEALTHIER PEOPLE** 

MORE ATTRACTIVE ENVIRONMENT









How Can We Plan for Continued Investment & Revitalization that does not degrade the Quality of Life in our City?

#### <u>Specific Plan – Near Term</u> <u>Strategy</u>

- Implement Near Term Network Improvements; Enforce community Standard of Mobility.
- Use the SPPLN to limit new development to amount that these new improvements can accommodate (within community std.)

#### Specific Plan: Medium to Long Term Strategy

Use the SPPLN to ensure that new development <u>replaces existing</u> <u>development patterns</u> with:

- City Centers with mixed-use and appropriate levels of density;
- Connected streets and walkable scaled blocks;
- Infrastructure to accommodate walking, bicycling, and transit use.

#### Community Workshop 3 – Traffic Comments

#### So Far So Good

- Thanks for listening about traffic
- We are getting more people; The only solution is high density & mixed-use
- I'm in support of the network improvements and mixed-use
- I agree with the idea of phasing development

#### Concerns

- People who move here want to live the mediumlow density California Lifestyle and drive cars.
- I have heard there is not a big difference between Single Family Homes and Centers. How much reduction in traffic is there really?
- I'm Concerned about the extent of the benefit you get from this type of development.
- Shouldn't we direct investment so it doesn't go in the wrong place?
- Under current transportation system, more intensity is planning for more cars
- If we get the density/housing, will we get transit?

#### Strong Support For Transit

- We need to look 30 years out to plan for transit.
- I want to see us do more planning for transit
- Beach, Ellis, and Main is a perfect place for a transportation center
- We do need to move forward with more emphasis on transit

Overall, Participants Wanted To Look More Closely At The Vision

"This strikes me as an exhilarating process. I haven't heard 'I disagree totally' but I do hear some caution.

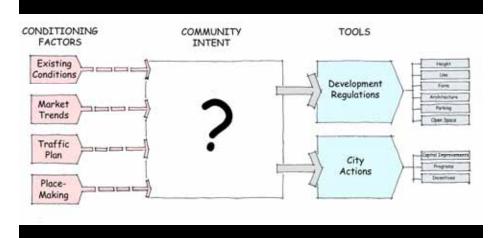
Let's definitely go to the next stage"

#### **Envisioned Infill**

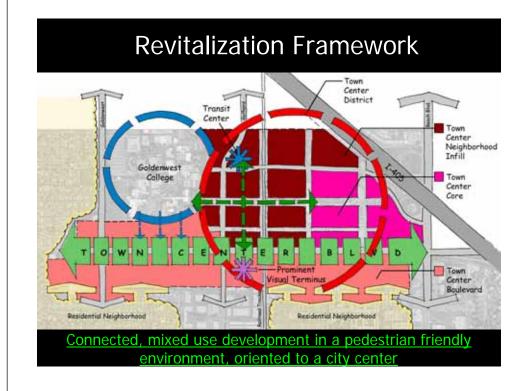
Essential Characteristics for New Investment along Edinger

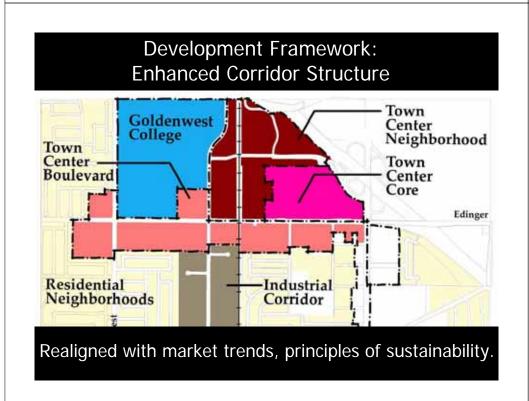


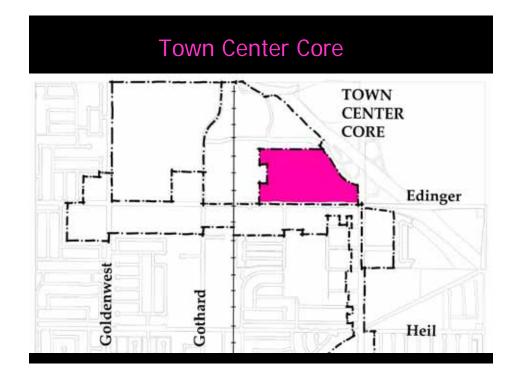
## How Do We Decide What Would be Best for the Edinger Corridor?

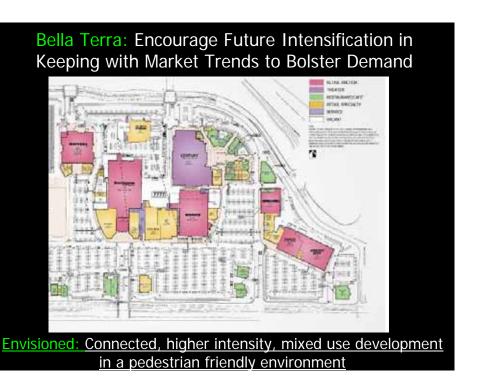


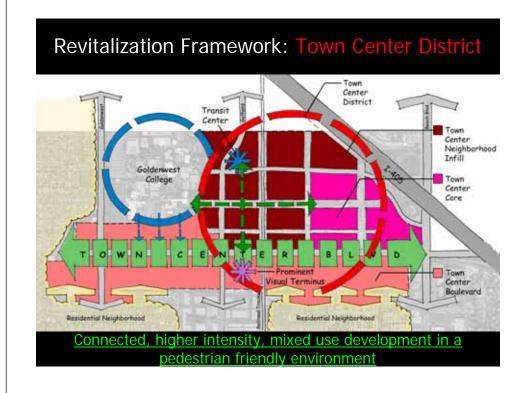
# The Existing Pattern of Development in the Edinger Corridor & Environs College College Residential Neighborhood Isolated, low intensity, single use development in an autodominated environment



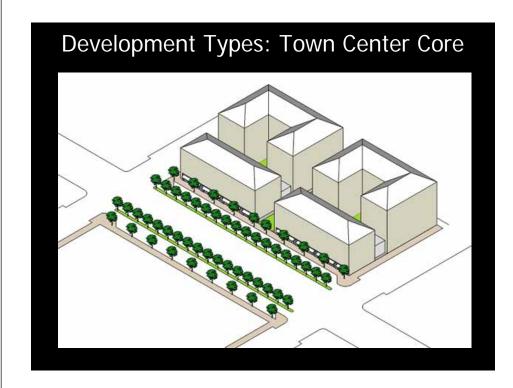




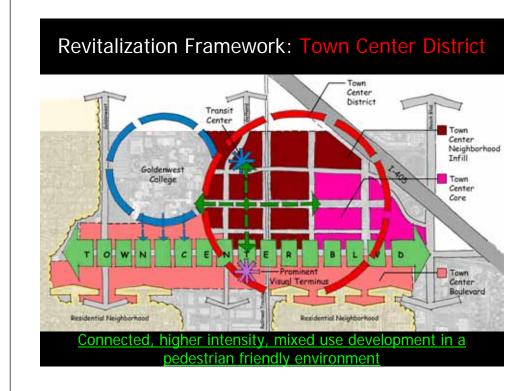








# Town Center Neighborhood Town CENTER NEIGHBORHOOD Edinger Heil





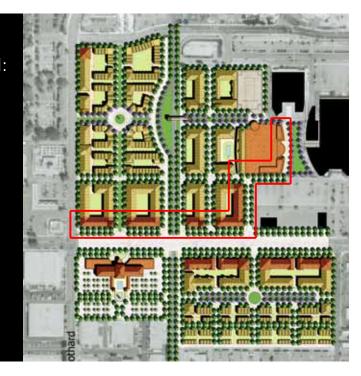








Town Center Neighborhood: Core Edge



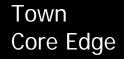
### Envisioned Development Types: Core Edge





Mixed-Use w/ ground floor shops





Ground Floor Retail Required

Residential, Office, Lodging Above

Minimum 2 Stories
Maximum 4 Stories



Town Core Edge

Ground Floor Retail Required

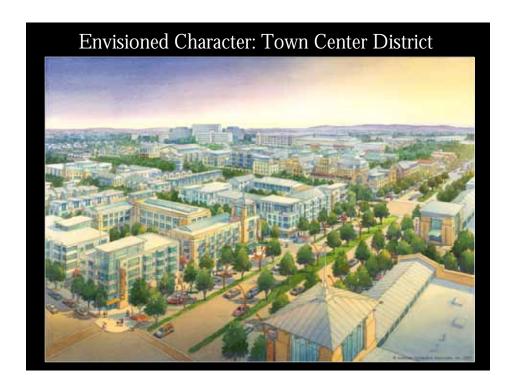
Residential, Office, Lodging Above

Minimum 2 Stories

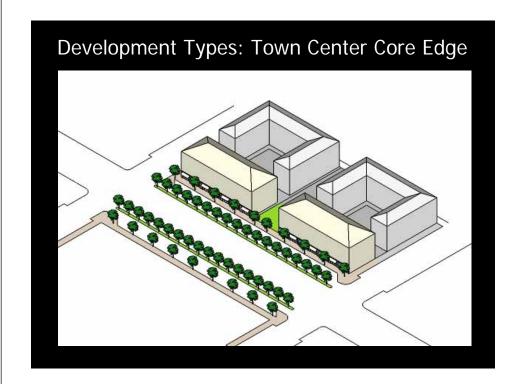
Maximum 4 Stories



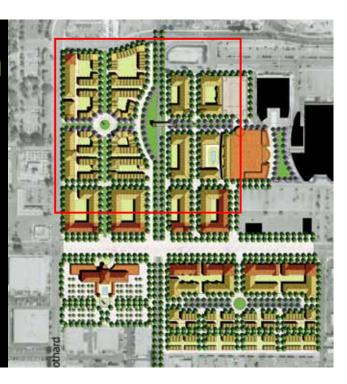








Town Center Neighborhood Interior





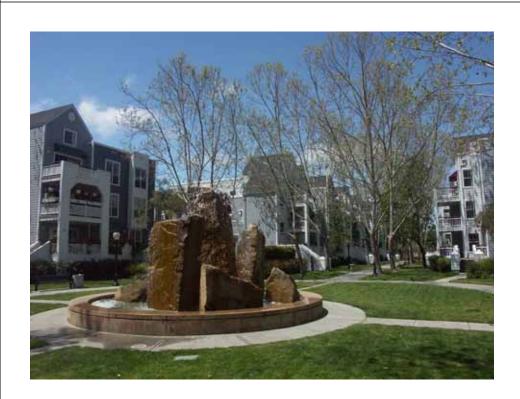


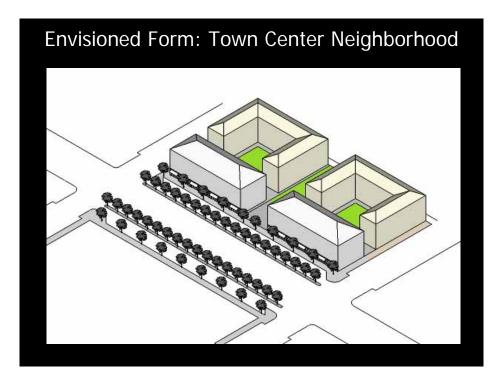






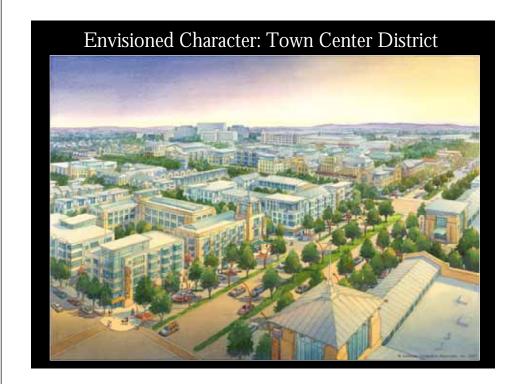


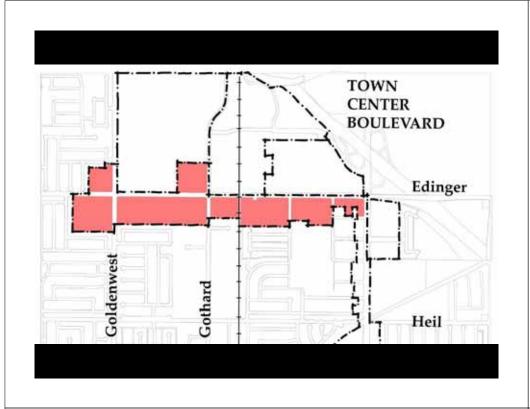


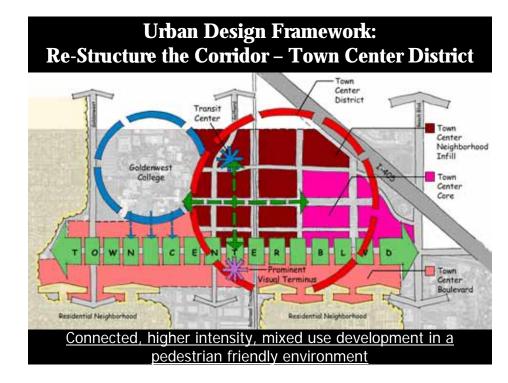


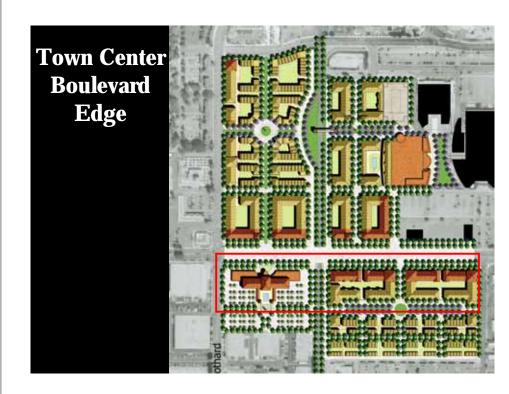


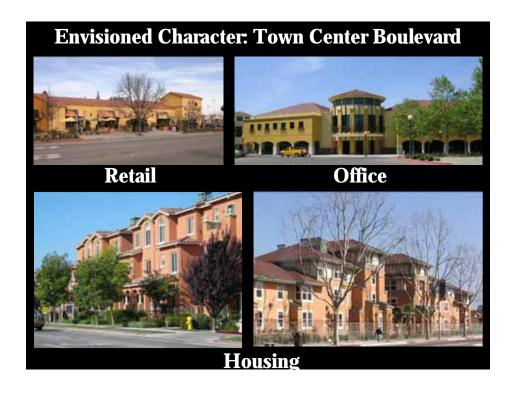




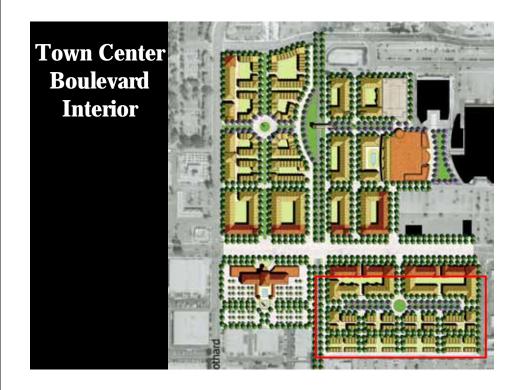


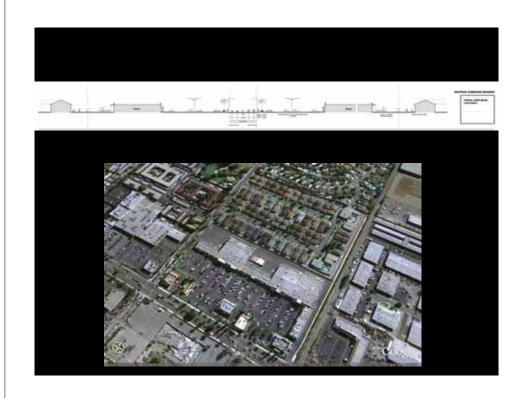


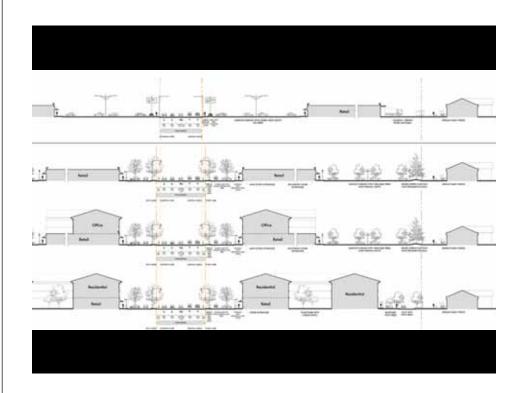


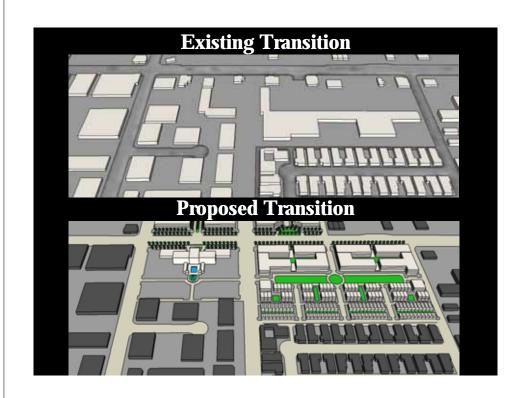








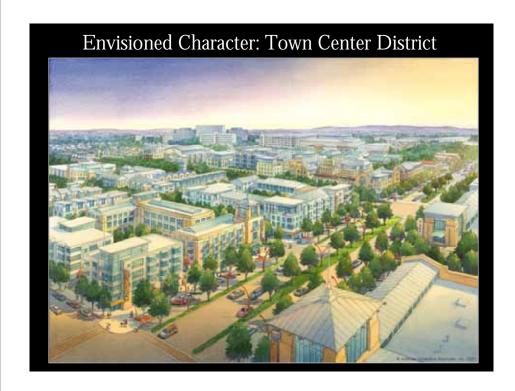


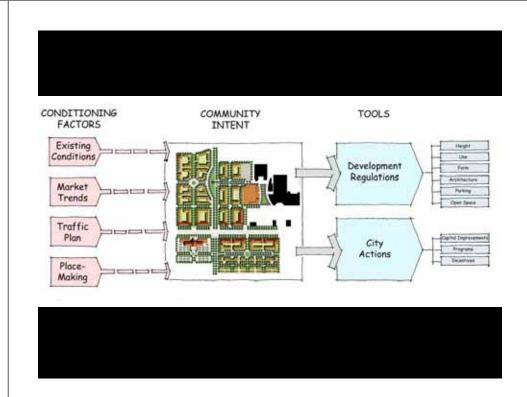


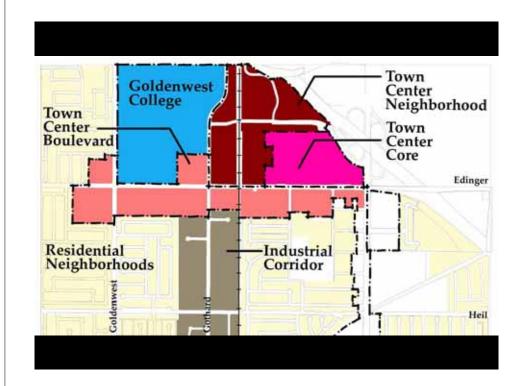






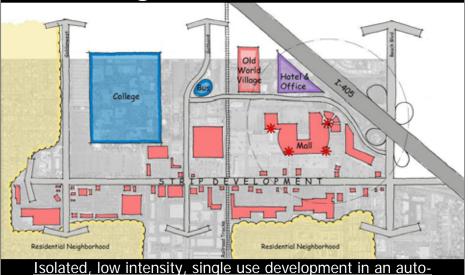








# The Existing Pattern of Development in the Edinger Corridor & Environs

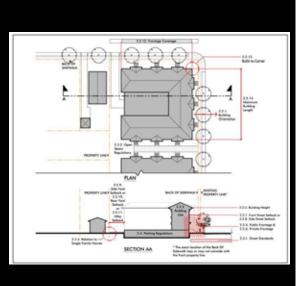


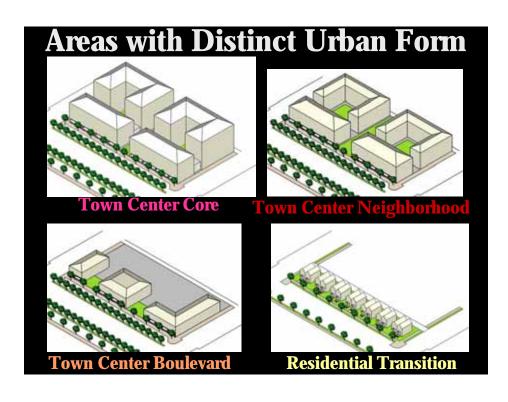


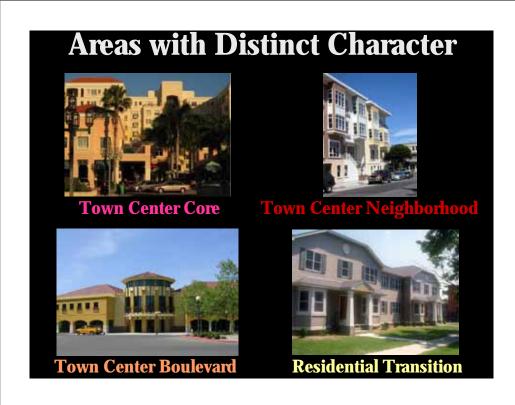
### **Regulatory Elements**

dominated environment

- 1. Building Orientation
- 2. Building Use
- 3. Building Height
- 4. Relation to Existing Homes
- 5. Public Frontage
- 6. Private Frontage
- 7. Setbacks
- 8. Frontage Coverage
- 9. Space Between Buildings
- 10. Building Length
- 11. Build-to-Corner







### Community Workshop 2 - Comments

- I'm worried about transportation.
- Will these recommendations increase traffic on Edinger Ave. so that congestion is bad all day long?
- Generally I like the recommendations but I'm worried about the interchange as a choke point.
- We need to maintain traffic flow.

### Community Workshop 2 - Comments

- We need seamless land-use and transportation planning.
- Consider innovative traffic solutions.
- The Transit Center and railroad tracks are already in place for us to build on.
- Consider transit to get beach traffic of the roads.
- Reduce the commute out of the City
- Focus on the long term planning process, not just the immediate traffic impacts.
- If you live in the City, you avoid the problem intersections.
- I like the town center idea. I think it will generate less traffic.
- In nodes with higher density housing, more people will walk and they will be less congested.

### Community Workshop 2 - Comments

- Golden West College supports this.
- · I totally support this, move ASAP.
- The vision is wonderful.

## Community Workshop 4 Comments - Agree -

- Beautiful!
- I agree you need 50 DU to be feasible
- · Absolutely makes sense
- I like what you are talking about
- [Would be] a "good piece of Huntington Beach"
- · I think vision is viable
- · If we are lucky it will work well for adults What about children?
- This is a dynamic community
- Growth will Happen; you need to anticipate and channel change
- · This is a lifestyle choice people will make because they want to
- · Proven across the city
- There are 80 DU in the city now and people don't know it; Beach south of Adams east of Beach high density example.
- As a business owner this might be the right place for workforce housing.

# Community Workshop 4 Comments - Disagree -

- Instead of train: Quite/Environment; Monorail, Magrail etc.
- You are assuming people are going to walk.
- I don't care what you say I am concerned about the traffic.
- You can't do 50 DU with existing parking regulations
- You scared me you continue to white wash traffic
- Even mixed use density will be more traffic than low density single use
- Show traffic volumes I except full traffic analysis

# Community Workshop 4 Comments - Agree -

- Right-mostly
- All for mixed-use concept condition is not to lose retail
- · If you build it we will shop there
- Concepts make sense
- · Hotel would seem to be appropriate for that area
- Idea of mixed use on Montgomery ward and market is excellent
- I like what you have done; so far it has been thorough
- I challenge your to ensure the workshop vision matches the (intricate) regulation; If it doesn't you can not get to the vision
- The 405 is the most visible gateway to the city
- I agree and thing this is a good direction

# Community Workshop 4 Comments Don't Agree

- · Consider how feasibility is affected by impact fees
- Mixed use retail downtown has been unstable
- Luxury rental and affordable housing contradict
- I have owned this type of unit for 30 years and I hate it.
- You have no idea the problems that occur when you stack that many people
- I agree high density means higher crime
- · Concerned about eminent Domain water
- Wrong direction
- There are 3 projects [ready to go] in that area. I am concerned what happens if they go before the specific plan
- You are recommending that City Center type development should only go in 2 or 3 places; [it should go in more places].